GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:192
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2007
AIR AND NOISE POLLUTION
Murmu Shri Hemlal

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has undertaken any awareness campaign to check air and noise pollution in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the works undertaken by the Central Pollution Control Board and State Pollution Control Board in each State in this regard;

(c) whether there has been a sharp rise in the quantity of suspended particles of sulphur dioxide in the air on the occasion of Deepawali, particularly in Delhi, during this year;

(d) if so, the State-wise details thereof; and

(e) the measures taken by the Government to check air and noise pollution in country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUSTION NO 192 DUE FOR REPLY ON 28-11-2007 REGARDING 'AIR AND NOISE POLLUTION' BY SHRI HEMLAL MURMU

(a) & (b) The State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/ Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) are organising mass-awareness programmes periodically through banners, posters, mobile exhibitions, print media etc. in respect of prevention and control of Air and Noise pollution.

(c) & (d) Various State Pollution Control Boards and Pollution Control Committees were requested before Deepawali − 2007 by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) to undertake Air and Noise monitoring in their respective territories during Deepawali. CPCB has carried out monitoring in Delhi, Bangalore, Bhopal, Vadodara and Lucknow.

Air quality data of Delhi indicates that the concentration of Sulphur Dioxide (SO2) ranged between 8 and 113 ug/m3 in 2007 as compared to 10 and 45 ug/m3 during Deepawali day, 2006. The trend of SO2 levels have been found to be increasing in general but has been within the prescribed standard of 80 ug/m3 at all the locations monitored except Janakpuri, where it was 113 ug/m3. The increase in air pollution due to SO2 mainly attributed to adverse meteorological conditions in 2007 as compared to 2006.

(e) The measures taken to abate air and noise pollution include:

Standards for control of noise pollution from various sources have been notified.
Noise Standards for fire crackers have been notified.
Noise and Emission Standards for DG Sets have been notified.
Testing of Firecrackers for noise levels for compliance of noise standards is undertaken by CPCB for the last five years.
Ambient Air Quality Standards have been notified.
Ambient Noise Quality Standards have been notified.
Emission standards for various categories of industries have been notified.
Mass emission norms for the vehicles at the manufacturing stage as well as for in-use vehicles have been notified.
Pollution under Control (PUC) Certificate System is in place for in-use vehicles.
Unleaded petrol has been introduced throughout country.